STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHARLESTON HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION SHAC No. II-1-16-009 HUD No. 04-16-4321-8 Complainants. CONCILIATION AGREEMENT 18 Baxter Community Association, Inc. 130 Ben Casey Drive Fort Mill, South Carolina 29708 and Kuester Management Group, LLC 130 Ben Casey Drive, Fort Mill, South Carolina 28716 Respondents.

This compromise Conciliation Agreement is entered into by and between the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission (hereinafter "Commission"), on behalf of (hereinafter "Complainants"), and Baxter Community Association, Inc. and Kuester Management Group.

WHEREAS, Complainants filed a verified complaint against Respondents on February 17, 2016 alleging violations of the South Carolina Fair Housing Law and dual-filed with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Federal Fair Housing Act, as amended (hereinafter, "the Complaint").

CASE SYNOPSIS

identifies himself as white and Complainant Asian. The Complainants belong to a class of persons who the Fair Housing Act (the Act) protects from unlawful discrimination because of race. The Complainants allege since September 15, 2015, the Respondents have imposed different terms and conditions on their family regarding landscaping.

Respondents deny having discriminated against Complainants, but agree to settle the claims in the underlying action by entering into this Conciliation Agreement.

WHEREAS, the Commission and the parties hereto wish to reach a just resolution of the aforementioned dispute, and reach a full, equitable and final settlement of all matters arising out of the

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereby agree and stipulate to the following:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The terms set forth herein are contractual and not merely a recital,

- A. The parties acknowledge that this Agreement is a full settlement of the disputed Complaint. The parties hereto state that they have read and fully understand the significance of the terms set forth herein and have executed this Conciliation Agreement freely and voluntarily. No party has been coerced, intimidated, threatened, or in any way forced to become a party to this Agreement.
- B. By signing this Agreement both Complaments and Respondents state that they have had the opportunity to seek legal counsel regarding the effects of this Agreement.
- C. This conciliation agreement fully and completely resolves all issues and claims arising out of the factual circumstances underlying SHAC Case #H-1-16-009 and HUD File ±04-16-4321-8 will take any further legal action with respect to, or initiate any action pertaining to, the facts of this Conciliation Agreement.
- D. This Agreement, after it has been approved by the Commissioner of South Carolina Human Affairs Commission (SCHAC), is binding upon the Complainants and each of the Respondents, including their employees, successors and all others in active concert with them in the administration and management of Baxter Community Association, Inc.
- E. It is understood that, pursuant to Section 31-21-120 (D) of the South Carolina Code of Laws Fair Housing Law, upon approval of this Agreement by the Commissioner of SCHAC, it is a public document.
- F. This Agreement does not in any way limit or restrict SCHAC's authority to investigate any other complaint involving Respondents made pursuant to the Fair Housing Law, or any other law within SCHAC's jurisdiction.
- G. This Conciliation Agreement constitutes closure of the Complaint at HUD and South Carolina Human Affairs Commission upon approval of this Agreement by the Commissioner and such closure shall be permanent unless the Commission determines that either party has failed to comply with the terms of the Agreement.

III. PROVISIONS FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST

In order to assure that the public interest is protected, Respondents, without admitting to any violation of the South Carolina Fair Housing Law or Federal Fair Housing Act, agree to continue taking any such practices, including, but not limited to the following:

A. Respondents agree that they will continue to comply with all federal and state housing laws.

B. Respondents agree that they will continue to consistently apply the governing documents for Baxter Community Association. Inc. in an objective and non-discriminatory manner.

IV. RELIEF FOR COMPLAINANT

A. Respondents agree that they will not retaliate against Complainants for filing a claim of discrimination against them.

V: RELEASE BY COMPLAINANT

A. Upon execution of this Agreement and unless and until the Commission determines that Respondents are not in compliance with the terms of Paragraph IV above, Complainants agree to release and forever discharge Respondents and Respondents' employees, agents, successors, the facts and circumstances alleged in the Complaint.

VI. BREACH OF CONCILIATED TERMS

- A. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to preclude the Commission and or any aggrieved individual(s) from bringing suit to enforce this Agreement in the event that Respondents fail to comply with the terms of Paragraph IV above. Neither does it preclude the Commission from filing charges in the future concerning events occurring after the execution of this Agreement. In the event that the Commission determines that Respondents have not complied with the terms hereof, the Commission shall send written notice to Respondents and Respondents shall be given a reasonable time period to remedy such non-compliance.
- B. Subject to any and all applicable rules of evidence (whether federal or state), Complainants and Respondents agree that this Agreement may be used as evidence in a subsequent proceeding in which any of the parties allege a breach of this Agreement.

VII. REPORTING & RECORDKEEPING

Upon written request by the Commission, the Parties shall submit proof of compliance with the terms of this Agreement to:

South Carolina Human Affairs Commission Fair Housing Division Attention: Don Frierson 1026 Sumter Street, Suite 101 Columbia, SC 29201

The submitter of any documentation should include the SHAC and HUD case numbers, which are as follows:

SHAC Case #H-1-16-009 HUD File #04-16-4321-8 an Zhu Ju vs. Bayer Constantly Association, life and

Kuester Management Group, LLC

VIII. COMMISSION REVIEW

A. Subject to the provisions of Section 814 of the Fair Housing Act, as amended, 42 U. S. C. Section 3614, and in accordance with the provisions of State Regulations R. 65-225.G., the Commission may, from time to time, review compliance with this Conciliation Agreement, and, if necessary, recommend to the South Carolina Attorney General that a civil action be filed to seek enforcement of any of the terms set forth herein.

IX. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Agreement shall become effective on the date on which it is approved and signed by the Commissioner of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission below.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have subscribed their names hereto on the day and date indicated. 15-16-16 Date: 6-20-16 Baxter Community Association, Inc. Bax feel Community Asser Pres Kuester Management Group, LLC By: Date: Its: pproced on Behalf of the Commission: Date: 6-22-/6 Commissioner